Docket: 740819-1024

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re New Patent Application of)	
Kotoyoshi MURAKAMI)	
Japanese Priority Application No. 2002-223594) Attn: Applications	
Japanese Priority Date: July 31, 2002)	Branch
For:	JUNCTION METHOD AND JUNCTION)	
	TOOL) Date	: July 22, 2003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

1. Dall

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Substitute for form 1449A/PTO Complete if Known New Application Application Number INFORMATION DISCLOSURE July 22, 2003 Filing Date STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Kotoyoshi MURAKAMI First Named Inventor (use as many sheets as necessary) Group Art Unit Examiner Name Sheet of Attorney Docket Number 740819-1024 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear U.S. Patent Document Date of Publication of Cited Examiner Initials Cite No.1 Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY Document Number Kind Code US-2001/0045447 Kano et al. 11/29/2001 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Examiner Initials Foreign Patent Document Date of Publication of Cited Name of Patentee or Document MM-DD-YYYY Applicant of Cited Document Kind Code Relevant Figures Appear Office3 Number⁴ (if known) 2001-314982 11/13/2001 Japan Kano et al. Abstract Europe 1 153 694 A2 Kano et al. 11/14/2001 OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS Examiner Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the T^2 Initials' item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.)., date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Date

Considered

Examiner

Signature

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the twoletter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.